

Congress of the United States

November 17, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Nuria Fernandez
Federal Transit Administrator
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg and Administrator Fernandez:

We write to express our support of Lane Transit District's (LTD) grant application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for \$4,891,676 from the fiscal year 2021 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities program.

The Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities program offers an avenue for Lane County, Oregon to leverage technology to modernize its bus fleet while providing significant environmental benefits. This application will allow LTD to purchase five additional battery electric buses, increasing the planned number of electric buses in LTD's transit fleet to 35.

More than 60% of LTD's current fleet, consisting of a mix of diesel and diesel-electric hybrid buses, exceeds the twelve-year useful life for heavy duty buses. LTD is at a critical stage for fleet replacement. Electric buses can be a reliable and cost-effective transportation option, while reducing the environmental and health threats posed by diesel buses. The electrification of LTD's fleet will have significant benefits, including improved air quality and reduced maintenance costs.

By providing services that reduce dependency on fossil fuels, LTD will reduce its energy consumption and harmful emissions, including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with its fleet. The battery electric buses that LTD is proposing to put into service consume less energy per mile driven than buses that use other common propulsion technologies, such as gasoline and diesel engines.

This application complements an existing partnership with the Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) who was a project partner for the agency's 2016 Low or No Emission Grant. CTE is experienced in developing, implementing, and administering advanced transportation technology projects with a focus on zero-emission transit buses and will be instrumental in managing grant requirements and execution.

Increasing LTD's investment into battery electric buses and infrastructure ensures that the agency will facilitate efforts to meet climate action goals, as well as support local partners in

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reducing GHG emissions, consistent with the objectives of this grant program and the Biden-Harris Administration.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of Lane Transit District's application for the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities program.

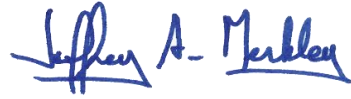
Sincerely,



Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



Ron Wyden
U.S. Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
U.S. Senator